GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2246
ANSWERED ON:29.08.2007
RULES FOR SALE OF CAPTIVE ELEPHANTS
Pallani Shamy Shri K.C .

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(d) the number of elephants in custody in the country, State-wise;

(e) the present status of the requests of some States in regard to simplify the rules for the sale of captive elephants to curb the illegal trading of elephants; and

(f) the action taken by the Government thereon?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI S.REGUPATHY)

(a) It is estimated that the number of captive elephants in India is between 3400 − 3600. State-wise distribution of captive elephants is annexed.

(b) & (c) As per the provisions of the Wild Life (Protection) (Amendment) Act, 2002, transfer of elephants by way of sale or offer of sale or by any other mode of consideration of commercial nature is prohibited. Some States like Assam, Bihar, Kerala and Union Territory of Andaman & Nicobar Islands have requested the Central Government to make necessary amendments in the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 for relaxing the prohibition on sale of domesticated live elephants. The matter is under consideration.